记陕北子长晚三叠世一新的古鳕类

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摘要 记述了陕北子长晚三叠世古鳕科(Palaeoniscidae)一新属新种——子长瓦窑堡鳕(Wayaobulepis zichangensis gen. et sp. nov.)。其一般形态特征如身体长纺锤形、背鳍基长,后部对着腹鳍和臀鳍之间的空隙、鳍条粗壮、饰缘棘鳞细小、悬挂骨倾斜、鳃盖骨很高大、鳞片小及横列鳞数目多等,与澳大利亚中至晚三叠世的 Myriolepis 很相似,但新属具有吻较尖、背鳍鳍条数目较少、鳞片具有众多的斜嵴、后缘成梳齿状以及具有背嵴鳞等显著特征区别于 Myriolepis。瓦窑堡鳕在体形、鳍的位置、鳃盖骨高大及鳞片的纹饰等方面也与欧洲中至晚三叠世的 Gyrolepis 相似,但新属以背鳍基较长、臀鳍基较短、背嵴鳞发达及鳍条粗壮等特征区别于 Gyrolepis。根据瓦窑堡鳕的性质和化石层位的情况,将含鱼化石地层的时代定为晚三叠 世

关键词 陕西北部子长,晚三叠世,古鳕科

中图法分类号 Q915.862

本文所记述的古鳕类化石是 1979 年由延安地区子长县文化馆赠给中国科学院古脊椎动物与古人类研究所。据该馆记载,此化石产于子长县冯家屯乡驮儿巷,但未写明产出层位。1979 年秋,笔者和刘志东在该文化馆业务人员带领下观察了化石的产地和层位,并查阅了该地区的地质图,认为含化石的地层应属于延长组上段(原瓦窑堡组)。此鱼化石相当大且较完整,经笔者当时初步鉴定为古鳕目(Palaeonisciformes)。现经笔者研究,认为它应代表古鳕科(Palaeoniscidae)一新属新种。其一般形态特征与澳大利亚中、晚三叠世的 Myriolepis 最相近。晚三叠世鱼化石在我国迄今还发现得很少,如今在延长组上段发现了较完整的标本,当有重要意义。

1 系统描述

古鳍次纲 Palaeopterygii 古鳕目 Palaeonisciformes 古鳕科 Palaeoniscidae

瓦窑堡鳕(新属) Wayaobulepis gen. nov.

特征 身体通常大,长纺锤形。头中等大。吻较尖。眼眶大,居头的前上部。前鳃盖

骨和悬挂骨很向前倾斜。口裂很深,上、下颌骨很长,前者的后部似乎很扩大,后者无冠状突。鳃盖骨颇为高大,甚大于下鳃盖骨。腹鳍基短。背鳍基颇长于臀鳍,后部对着腹鳍和臀鳍之间的空处,具有两列支持骨(辐状骨)。尾鳍很可能属于全歪形。所有鳍(除胸鳍不详外)的鳍条均粗壮且完全分节,表面饰有似釉质嵴。背鳍条排列间距较大。鳍前具有基部棘鳞和细小的饰缘棘鳞。体覆小的菱形鳞片,被有较薄的似釉质层且具众多而斜向的似釉质嵴(有些成分枝状),延伸到后缘成梳状齿。鳞片具有发达的关节突和关节窝。横列鳞数目较多。背鳍之前和之后均具有一列背嵴鳞。

子长瓦窑堡鳕(新种)Wayaobulepis zichangensis sp. nov.

(图 1~2;图版 I)

正型标本 一条近乎完整的鱼(尾鳍后部缺失)。中国科学院古脊椎动物与古人类研究所标本登记号 V 12171。

特征 同属的特征。体长为体高的 3.3 倍强,为头长的 4 倍。头长略大于其高。尾柄长约为其高的 1.6 倍。背鳍鳍条约 30 根。臀鳍鳍条约 20 根。

产地与时代 陕西延安子长县冯家屯乡驮儿巷;晚三叠世。

释名 属名 Wayaobulepis 由鱼化石产出层位瓦窑堡组的汉语拼音和后缀-lepis (鳞片)组成。种名 zichangensis 示化石产地子长。

描述 身体大,正型标本全长约达 75cm, 躯干呈长纺锤形, 体长为体高的 3.3 倍强, 为头长的 4 倍。头长略大于其高。尾柄长约为其高的 1.6 倍。

头骨:头中等大,头骨侧视略呈三角形,头顶颇向前倾斜,约成 40°斜坡。头骨外部骨片几乎全部脱落,仅残存少数破碎的骨片,骨缝不清晰难以辨认。吻较尖,这个部位的骨片观察不清。额骨前部保存不全,似乎很长大。顶骨较大,略呈方形。膜质翼耳骨很发达,中部宽大,向前和向后逐渐变窄。额外肩胛骨仅观察到左边的一块,呈矩形。眼眶大,位于头的前上部。围眶骨保存不佳。在眼眶和鳃盖骨之间的颊区保存有前鳃盖骨的痕迹,它似乎颇向前倾斜。由此表明悬挂骨也颇向前倾斜。口裂很深大,左右上颌骨被挤压在一起,其界线难以辨认,但从其大致的轮廓看,上颌骨的后部似乎相当扩大,与前鳃盖骨连接。下颌骨长而粗壮,从前向后逐渐加高,无冠状突。上、下颌骨的口缘未见牙齿。鳃盖骨很高大,高颇大于宽,略呈长方形。下鳃盖骨保存不佳,从其大致的轮廓看,小于鳃盖骨。鳃条骨保存有7条,均相当宽大,其表面饰有似釉质条纹和疣突。在下颌骨下面显露着两块长条形的骨片,中部较宽,向前和向后逐渐变窄,其形状与 Gardiner (1984)描述的古鳕类 Mimia toombsi 的侧咽板骨相似。

中轴骨骼隐约显露,以背基弓片和腹基弓片为代表,未形成椎体。在背鳍和枕区之间 隐约可见 17 根较粗壮的上神经棘。

肩带与偶鳍:在肩带部仅观察到匙骨、上匙骨及上肩胛骨的印模。前者很粗壮,呈弯形,下枝较扩大,上枝向上逐渐变尖。其表面被有较薄的似釉质层并饰有细小的疣突。上匙骨很窄高,几与鳃盖骨一样高。上肩胛骨较大,略呈三角形。胸鳍保存很差,仅观察到3根残破的鳍条,可以看出鳍条密分节。腹鳍基短,其起点距臀鳍比距胸鳍为近,约有15根较粗壮的鳍条,均从近基部开始密分节,节距长颇短于宽,其外面饰有似釉质嵴。

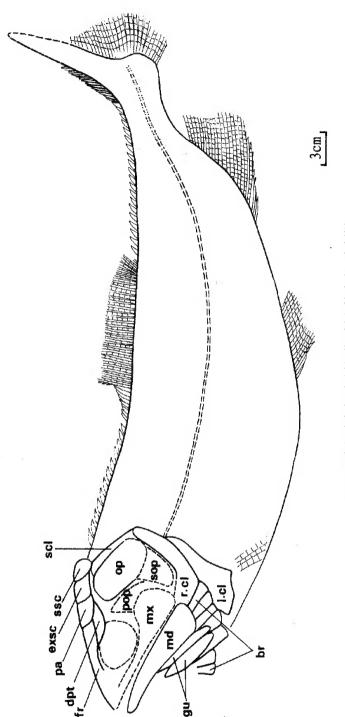


图 1 子长瓦窑堡鳕(新属新种)略图(鳞片略),左侧视

gular 侧咽板骨; md, mandible 卞颌骨; mx, maxilla 上颌骨; op, operculum 鳃盖骨; pa, panietal 顶骨; pop, preoperculum 前鳃盖骨; r.cl, right br, branchiostegals 鳃条骨; dpt, dermopterotic 膜质翼耳骨; exsc, extrascapular 额外肩胛骨; fr, frontal 额骨; 1.cl, left cleithrum 左匙骨; 1.gu, lateral Fig.1 Schema of Wayaobulepis zichangensis gen. et sp. nov., left view (scales omitted), based on Holotype (IVPP V 12171) cleithrum 右匙骨; sop, suboperculum 下總盖骨; scl, supracleithrum 土匙骨; ssc, suprascapula 上肩胛骨 奇鳍: 背鳍仅保存有近基一段印模, 鳍基较长, 后部对着腹鳍和臀鳍之间的空处, 起点在腹鳍起点之前, 约有 30 根粗壮的鳍条, 排列间距较大, 均从近基部开始密分节, 节距表面饰有较多的似釉质嵴。在背鳍之前约有 9 根粗壮的基部棘鳞 (basal fulcral), 由前向后依次增长, 继而连接饰缘棘鳞。支持背鳍的支持骨有两列, 上列隐约可见 20 多根, 下列显露 15 根, 均呈长条状。估计每列支持骨数目少于背鳍条数目。臀鳍基比腹鳍长, 但比背鳍短, 约有 20 根鳍条, 均较粗壮且从近基部开始密分节, 节距长显然短于宽, 饰有似釉质嵴。臀鳍基前具有几根基部棘鳞, 前缘饰有一些细小的饰缘棘鳞。尾鳍后部缺失, 鳞叶残存较长, 从其向后上方延伸的部分颇为长大的情况来判断, 很可能属于全歪形尾。尾鳍条残存约 28 根, 均较粗壮且从近基部开始密分节, 节距长显然短于宽。下叶边缘基部残存有基部棘鳞的印痕。上叶背缘基部具有几个基部棘鳞。

鳞片:体覆小的菱形鳞片。躯干前部特别是靠近头后的体侧鳞高大于长,略呈长方形。从头后向尾柄,鳞片逐渐减低,接近正菱形。从体轴向背、腹缘,鳞片也逐渐减低,高与长近似乃至高小于长。鳞片的上边缘具有关节突,与其上鳞片下缘关节窝相接,此关节以躯干前部的体侧鳞为最发达。所有鳞片均被有较薄的似釉质层,并饰有许多从前上方向后下方延伸的似釉质嵴,有些常常分枝或汇合。它们延伸到鳞片后缘则成钝梳齿状。在不同部位,似釉质嵴的数目有所变化,在躯干前部的体侧鳞,多者达 15 条左右,在尾柄、背缘和腹缘鳞片的似釉质嵴显然变少,鳞片后缘的梳状齿也随之变少乃至缺乏。在躯干和尾柄的背缘均具有较强壮的背嵴鳞,向后上方突伸成尖形。在腹鳍和臀鳍之前各具有一个较大的鳞片,后者更大一些,表面也饰有许多类似于其他鳞片的似釉质嵴。从匙骨后至尾鳞叶开始倒转处约有 93~95 列横列鳞。在最大体高处从腹缘至背缘约有 42 个鳞片。一

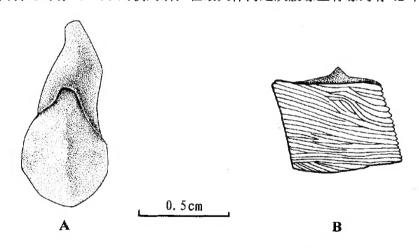


图 2 子长瓦窑堡鳕(新属新种)的鳞片

Fig. 2 Scales of Wayaobulepis zichangensis gen. et sp. nov. A. 肩带后的两个鳞片(内面视),示关节突和关节窝

Scales behind shoulder girdle, internal view, showing peg-and-socket articulation

B. 躯干中部的一体侧鳞(外面视),示纹饰和鳞片后缘梳状齿

A flank-scale in the middle portion of trunk, external view, showing ornamentation and pectinations at hind border of scale

条侧线几沿着体轴向后延伸,至尾部保存不清,可能终止于尾基。

正型标本(V 12171)测量 Measurements of the Holotype (cm)

全长(Total length) ······	···· 75 (ca.)
体长(Tip of snout to beginning of caudal inversion)	60
体高(Maximum depth of body) ····································	18
头长(Length of head with opercular apparatus) ······	
头高(Depth of head) ······	· 13,5(ca.)
尾柄长(Length of caudal peduncle) ······	8.0
尾柄高(Depth of caudal peduncle) ·······	5.0
背鳍起点至吻端(Origin of dorsal fin to tip of snout) ······	30.5
背鳍起点至尾基(Origin of dorsal fin to beginning of caudal inversion) ················	27
腹鳍起点至吻端(Origin of ventral fin to tip of snout)	34 (ca.)
臀鳍起点至吻端(Origin of anal fin to tip of snout) ······	49
臀鳍起点至腹鳍起点(Origin of anal fin to origin of ventral fin) ************************************	17
腹鳍起点至匙骨后缘(Origin of ventral fin to posterior border of cleithrum)	··· 22 (ca.)

2 比较与讨论

以上所描述的子长瓦窑堡鳕(新属新种)的一般形态特征与主要产于澳大利亚中至晚三叠世地层的 Myriolepis 很相似,它们具有以下几点相似的特征:身体硕大,长纺锤形;背鳍基较长,后部对着腹鳍和臀鳍之间的空隙;鳍很发达,鳍条粗壮;饰缘棘鳞细小;下颌悬挂骨很倾斜;鳃盖骨很高大,高颇大于宽;鳞片小,具有发达的关节突和关节窝,表面饰有斜布的似釉质嵴;体侧鳞不显著加高;横列鳞数目多。然而,瓦窑堡鳕具有以下几点显著特征截然不同于 Myriolepis: 躯干和尾柄的背缘均具有一列发达的背嵴鳞;吻较尖;背鳍鳍条数目较少(约30根,但在 Myriolepis 中有50~55根);鳞片后缘成锯齿状,表面具有众多而斜布的似釉质嵴。

瓦窑堡鳕还有一些形态特征如身体长纺锤形、吻钝尖、鳃盖骨很高大、特别是鳞片的纹饰,也与欧洲中至晚三叠世的 Gyrolepis 相似,但瓦窑堡鳕具有以下几点显著特征可以与 Gyrolepis 区分: 背鳍基较长,臀鳍基较短(在 Gyrolepis 中,臀鳍基颇长于背鳍); 躯干和尾柄的背缘具有发达的背嵴鳞;鳞片较小,横列鳞数目较多; 上下毗邻的鳞片以发达的关节突和关节窝相连接; 所有鳍的鳍条均较粗壮且表面饰有众多的似釉质嵴。

根据以上的比较,可以很清楚地看出,瓦窑堡鳕虽与 Myriolepis、Gyrolepis 有所相似,但又与后两个属有很显著的差别,应代表古鳕科中一新属新种。

Myriolepis 的属型种——Myriolepis clarkei 最早由 Egerton 1864年根据澳大利亚新南威尔斯堪培尔顿(Campelltown)附近一鱼体中部和 Clarke 氏提供的产自 Cockatoo 岛一鱼化石前部的照片所建。他根据所能辨认的特征,认为 Myriolepis 与 Acrolepis 有密切的关系,将它置于古鳕科(Palaeoniscidae),后来通常被古鱼类学家所采用。Woodward(1890)研究新南威尔斯 Gosford 地区 Hawkesbury 系鱼化石时,给 Myriolepis 属下了较完全的定义,

除了对属型种 M. clarkei 作了重新研究外,还描述了一新种—— M. latus,并认为 Myriolepis 可与英国南部 Dorsetshire 郡早侏罗世(下里阿斯)的 Thrissonotus(已被改归于 Cosmolepis) 比较。其后, Traquair(1893) 记述了在爱尔兰煤层中发现的一种—— M. hibernicus。 Woodward (1906)又研究了这个种。Woodward (1908)研究新南威尔斯 St. Peter's 地区 Hawkesbury 系鱼化石时,又描记了一个硕大的种—— M. pectinata,全长约达0.7m,与本文记述的瓦窑堡鳕较接近。以上研究者均将 Myriolepis 归入古鳕科。

Gyrolepis 及其属型种 Gyrolepis albertii 最早由 Agassiz (1833)根据德国南部和法国东部中三叠世壳灰岩阶 (Muschelkalk) 的几个鳞片为正型标本所建,并将其列入鳞齿鱼类 (Lepidoides)。这个种的整体形态长期不详。直到 Dames (1888) 对德国南部壳灰岩阶所产的 Gyrolepis 4 个种的头骨、躯干、鳍及鳞片的形态特征作了描述后,才给这个属下了定义,同时将其移入古鳕科。此后, Stolley (1920)研究德国壳灰岩阶的硬鳞鱼类时又对 Gyrolepis 的两个种——M. albertii、G. ornatus 作了描述,也将 Gyrolepis 列入古鳕科。近代古鱼类学家诸如 Berg et al. (1964)、Lehman (1966)、Romer (1966)、Gardiner (1967)等均将 Myriolepis 和 Gyrolepis 列入古鳕科。

瓦窑堡鳕的头骨内部结构尽管还不清楚,但从头部所辨认的膜质骨和躯体部的形态特征诸如身体长纺锤形、尾歪形、所有鳍的鳍条都从近基部开始完全分节、背鳍下的两排支持骨皆骨化、眼眶大而靠前、无间鳃盖骨、下颌骨无冠状突、有一系列宽的鳃条骨以及菱形的鳞片被有似釉质层等表明,它也应属于古鳕科。另一方面,瓦窑堡鳕还显示着一些衍生特征如背鳍基较长,鳍条排列间距较大,其前有一列为数较多的基部棘鳞,饰缘棘鳞很微弱及鳞片被有较薄的似釉质层等,表明它更接近 Myriolepis,而与 Gyrolepis 差别较大一些。据过去报道(周晓和等,1957),在子长县以北横山麒麟沟三叠纪地层中产有可疑的 Gyrolepis,现据笔者观察,其鳞片纹饰和鳍的位置与瓦窑堡鳕相似,但身体小,背鳍基较短,由于标本保存很差,头骨和头后骨骼均不详,故难以确定是否属于瓦窑堡鳕。

在地质时代方面,根据子长瓦窑堡鳕的性质和产出的层位,笔者认为含鱼化石地层的时代应是晚三叠世或这个时代的晚期。根据子长县文化馆的记载和笔者 1979 年的调查,子长瓦窑堡鳕产于延长组上段(过去称之为瓦窑堡组或段),地质古生物学家通常都认为延长组的时代为晚三叠世。前面已叙述到,瓦窑堡鳕的一般形态特征与澳大利亚中至晚三叠世的 Myriolepis 最相近,在进化水平上大致近似,因此,在地质时代对比上以Myriolepis 为主要依据。据 Woodward (1890, 1891, 1908) 记述,Myriolepis 主要产于澳大利亚新南威尔斯 Gosford和 St. Peter's 地区的 Hawkesbury 系,其时代被认为属晚三叠世。又据 Wade (1935) 记述,这个属也见于新南威尔斯 Brookvale 地区中三叠世地层。本文记述的子长瓦窑堡鳕与新南威尔斯晚三叠世的种特别是与 Myriolepis pectinata 更接近一些。另外,与瓦窑堡鳕有些相似的 Gyrolepis 主要产于德、法两国中三叠世海相地层,也有个别种产于德国和北美晚三叠世陆相地层 (Romer, 1966)。可见生活在淡水环境中的鱼类延续晚一些。这为确定含瓦窑堡鳕的陆相地层的时代提供启示。再者,在产瓦窑堡鳕层位之下的铜川组还产有较多的软骨硬鳞鱼类化石,业经苏德造 (1984)研究报道的有延长三叠鳕 (Triassodus yanchangensis),其地质时代为晚三叠世,这也为之佐证。周晓和与刘宪亭 (1957) 研究子长县以北横山麒麟沟瓦窑堡煤系鱼化石群时,认为含鱼化石地层的时代属

于三叠纪,至晚不过于中三叠世,恐或有更早一些的可能。根据笔者对横山麒麟沟鱼化石群生存历史的分析,认为该含鱼化石地层的时代也有属晚三叠世的可能。因为这个鱼群中的主要成员如龙鱼属(Saurichthys)、裂齿鱼属(Perleidus)及孔鳕属(Boreosomus)虽然常见共生于斯匹茨贝根、格陵兰及马达加斯加早三叠世海相地层,但龙鱼属也见于澳大利亚中三叠世和北美晚三叠世陆相地层,甚至在欧洲还残存到早侏罗世里阿斯期。裂齿鱼属在欧洲还延续到中、晚三叠世。孔鳕属在北美可能延续到中三叠世(Romer,1966)。该鱼群中另两个属——古鳕(Palaeoniscus)和折鳞鳕(Gyrolepis)因标本保存太差,原研究者认为尚有疑问,不足为凭。由此可见,龙鱼、裂齿鱼及孔鳕到中、晚三叠世还比较繁盛,所以还没有充分证据证明横山麒麟沟鱼群的时代至晚不过于中三叠世。

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A NEW PALAEONISCOID FISH FROM THE UPPER TRIASSIC OF ZICHANG, NORTHERN SHAANXI

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Key words Zichang, Northern Shaanxi, Upper Triassic, Palaeoniscidae

Summary

The fossil fish described here was collected from Zichang County, Northern Shaanxi, and is referred to a new genus and species, Wayaobulepis zichangensis, of the Palaeoniscidae. Wayaobulepis resembles Myriolepis in many respects, but is characterised by its obtusely acute snout, few fin-rays of the dorsal fin, numerous oblique ridges covered with enameloid on scales, and strong dorsal ridge-scales. By nature of Wayaobulepis and stratigraphic sequence, the age of the fish-bearing beds should be Late Triassic.

Infraclass Palaeopterygii
Order Palaeonisciformes
Family Palaeoniscidae
Wayaobulepis gen. nov.

Type species Wayaobulepis zichangensis.

Generic diagnosis Body usually large, elongate-fusiform. Head moderate, snout

relatively acute. Orbits large and anteriorly placed. Preoperculum and suspensorium very oblique. Mouth gap very deep. Maxilla and mandibula rather long, posterior part of the former very enlarged, and the latter without coronoid process. Operculum very large, much larger than suboperculum. Pelvic fins short-based. Dorsal fin long-based, its posterior part opposite to the space between the pelvic and anal fins, having two rows of the fin-supports (radialia). Caudal fin most probably heterocercal. The rays of all the fins (except pectoral fins unknown) closely segmented throughout, with longitudinal ridges covered with enameloid. Basal fulcra and fringing fulcra at least present on the dorsal, pelvic, anal, and caudal fins. Scales rhombic and small, with numerous and oblique ridges covered with enameloid; their posterior edges usually pectinated; Peg-and-socket articulation well developed. Dorsal ridge-scales present on the whole dorsal edge.

Wayaobulepis zichangensis sp. nov.

(figs. $1 \sim 2$; pl. I)

Holotype A nearly complete fish. Cat. No. V 12171 of IVPP.

Diagnosis As for the genus. Dorsal fin with about 30 rays. Anal fin with about 20 rays.

Locality and horizon Tuoerxiang, Zichang, Northern Shaanxi; Upper Triassic.

Description The body is large and elongate fusiform. The type specimen has a length of about 75cm. The maximum depth of the body is about 1/3.3 of the body length. The head is moderate in size. The length of the skull is somewhat longer than its depth, and about 1/4 of the body length. The depth of the caudal peduncle is about 1/1.6 of its length.

The skull is almost triangular from its side view, and the cranial roof is sloping gently. The external skull-bones are almost missing, only impressions and broken bones can be seen. The snout is obtusely acute, probably with a large postrostral. The frontal appears to be rather long. The parietal is comparatively large. dermopterotic is well developed and spindle-shaped. The orbit is large in size and anteriorly placed. The circumorbital ring is badly preserved. The maxilla is of palaeoniscoid pattern. Its posterior part seems rather enlarged, firmly fixed to the The mandible is very long and strong. It is obtusely pointed at symphysis and gradually deepening posteriorly. No teeth are observed on the borders of both upper and lower jaws. The line of suture between the opercular and subopercular is uncertain, but it seems to be low down, as if the opercular is very large, much larger than subopercular. The preopercular inclines forwards. There are about seven branchiostegal rays preserved. They are comparatively broad, ornamented with striae and tubercles of enameloid. There are two elongate plates of bones

exposed below the mandible. They are most probably lateral gular plates.

The cleithrum is very strong. Its horizontal part is rather expanded and gradually pointed dorsally. Its surface is covered with a thin layer of enameloid, with small The supracleithrum is rather narrow and deep. The suprascapular is comparatively large and roughly trianglar in outline. The pectoral fins are represented by bits of fragmentary rays. The pelvic fin is short-based, consisting of about 15 stout rays. The distal part of the dorsal fin is missing, composed of about 30 stout rays. Its fin-supports are of two rows. The base of the anal fin is shorter than that of the dorsal fin, including about 20 stout rays. The caudal fin is most probally heterocercal. Its distal part was missing, surviving 28 stout rays. All the rays of the fins are closely segmented to the base, while their surfaces ornamented with longitudinal ridges of enameloid. The basal and fringing fulcra are present at least on the dorsal, pelvic, anal and caudal fins. There are about 9 strong basal fulcra in front of the dorsal fin. The scales are rhombic and relatively small. Those on the anterior flank are deeper than broad, but the heights of the scales decrease dorsally, ventrally and posteriorly. They are almost equilateral or even broader than deep. The scales are united by a large peg-and-socket articulation. All the scales are covered with a thin layer of enameloid. Their surfaces are ornamented with numerous oblique longitudinal ridges, often branching or anastomosing. They apparently produce pectinations at the hinder border of the scales. There are about ninety-three to ninety-five transverse rows of scales on the body. The dorsal ridge scales are rather strong, present on the dorsal edge of the body. A single lateral line pass through median row of scales on the flank.

Wayaobulepis (gen. nov.) resembles Myriolepis and Gyrolepis in the Remarks body form, relative position of fins, pattern of opercular apparatus, and characters of the scales, but it is distinct from Myriolepis in having less number of fin-rays of the dorsal fin, numerous oblique ridges and pectinated hinder borders of the scales, and the presence of strong dorsal ridge-scales. It also distinctly differs from Gyrolepis in its long-based dorsal fin, its shorter-based anal fin, its presence of dorsal ridge-scales, and in its stout fin-rays and more transverse rows of scales on the body. Wavaobulepis retains basic palaeoniscoid features. It is typically fusiform fish with heterocercal tail, rhomboidal, enameloid-covered scales, an oblique suspensorium, and completely segmented fin-rays. On the other hand, it also exhibits a few derived character states, for instance, opercular larger than subopercular; the dorsal edge of the body with strong ridge scales; the rays of the fins stout, those of the dorsal fin, sparsely arranged; the leading of the fins with delicate fringing fulcra. All these characters, some of them also seen in Myriolepis, are shown in advanced group.

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图版 I 说明(Explanations of Plate I)

子长瓦窑堡鳕 Wayaobulepis zichangensis gen. et sp. nov.

一近乎完整的鱼(正型标本 V 12171), 左侧视

A nearly complete fish (holotype), left side view $\times 1/3$

\$ 书 评 \$

鸟类飞行是如何起源的?

——评《鸟类的兴起——两亿两千五百万年的进化》

(The Rise of Birds: 225 Million Years of Evolution, by Sankar Chatterjee, 1997. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore and London. 312pp. 75 illus.)

由一个研究恐龙的学者写鸟类学专著的书评,这似乎有一些不妥。不过,如果读者知道这本鸟类学专著的作者实际上也是一个恐龙学家,那么就不会感到惊讶了。况且,这本书中很大一部分都在讨论原始鸟类与小型兽脚类恐龙之间的关系。

美国德州理工学院桑喀·蔡特基教授 (Sankar Chatterjee) 的专著《鸟类的兴起——两亿两千五百万年的进化》是近年来古鸟类学研究方面一本非常特别的专著。最近几年有关古鸟类学研究方面的专著不断涌现。1996年,美国著名的鸟类学家,北卡罗来纳大学的埃伦·费多希尔 (Alan Feduccia) 出版了《鸟类的起源与演化》一书;1997年,我国著名古鸟类专家,中国科学院古脊椎动物与古人类研究所的侯连海教授出版了《中国中生代鸟类》这一论著。费多希尔和侯连海教授的专著采用经典方法,总结了过去几十年来古鸟类学的研究成果和他们的主要观点,从这个意义上,他们的专著似乎古典色彩更为浓重。蔡特基的《鸟类的兴起——两亿两千五百万年的进化》则采用了完全不同的方法。蔡特基以现代系统发育分析的方法为背景,系统地研究了中生代鸟类学的一些热点问题。这是古鸟类学研究领域第一本比较"摩登"的专著。

促使作者写作该书的一个重要原因是世界上最早的鸟类——德克萨斯原鸟(Protoavis texensis)的发现和研究。在德克萨斯原鸟发现之前,世界上最早的鸟类化石是发现于德国索伦霍芬晚侏罗世地层中的始祖鸟(Archaeopteryx)。始祖鸟作为鸟类鼻祖的地位一直没有改变,然而,当蔡特基宣布他在晚三叠世地层中发现了世界上最早鸟类化石的时候,人们与其说感到惊喜,不如说感到困惑和怀疑。理由非常简单:原鸟的生存时代比始祖鸟整整提前了七千五百万年,更加让人感到吃惊的是,原鸟形态上比始祖鸟还要进步。

其实,人们认为德克萨斯原鸟这一属种并不成立还有另外一个重要原因。现代系统发育分析学的研究成果表明,鸟类起源于某种进步的小型兽脚类恐龙。这一观点得到了大多数古生物学家的支持,也被越来越多的化石证据所证实。然而,如果德克萨斯原鸟确实属于鸟类的话,那么,按照现代系统发育分析学的观点,与鸟类系统关系较近的小型兽脚类恐龙必须在三叠纪的一个很短时期内完成分支发生,也就是说,我们应该在三叠纪的地层中发现诸如似鸟龙类、霸王龙类、伤齿龙类和驰龙类的化石。令人遗憾的是,所有这些类群的化石记录大多数局限于晚白垩世地层中,因此,从化石的地层分布情况来看,德克萨斯原鸟的化石记录与现代系统发育分析学的结果相去太远。

